

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: moyle@essc.psu.edu (Alfred M. Moyle)
Subject: [4282] 40 meters: It's Alive!
Message-ID: <9602151346.AA20361@seismic.geosc.psu.edu>

I guess there's still some life in 40 ... heard VV7NZ at about 1200Z on 7.007 and UA9XFY at 1227Z on 7.004. It's enough to make me want to upgrade to Extra so I can work these guys.

Al N3KFL

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: bruce@net.com (Bruce Florip)
Subject: [4296] 40-9er Progress @aa7ar/6
Message-ID: <9602151658.AA13935@trappist.net.com>

Hi fellow 40-9er builders,

Wanted to provide status on the 40-9er so far:

Got the board via direct delivery from Doug Hendricks (Ki6ds) during a nice lunch by the San Francisco Bay at a place called Pete's Harbor.

After 3 stops at various electronics surplus stores in "Silicon Valley" all the parts were collected. A few substitutions here and there, but mostly by the list.

Put all the parts on the board except for the NE602 which I left in the office... I gave serious thought to a loan from the new Wildernes Sierra on the bench, but rejected the idea as it was already late.

So, after I get a 7040 crystal from Doug, and install the NE602, I'll send in the summary of parts that were substituted, and the results of the first tests.

73 from Santa Clara, Ca. USA.
Bruce aa7ar/6 NorCal #11

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: rhaslach@kevrlic.com (Robert D. Haslach)
Subject: [4284] 40m!!
Message-ID: <199602151437.JAA07914@tkn.kevrlic.mo.md.us>

Last night 40m, especially around 7025-40 was very much alive here in The

Nation's Capital: 3B8CF was booming and running many contacts (unfortunately not my 5w into a horizontal loop!), 5-lands and 6-lands were legion. Nice band opening!
Bob Haslach
N3FRT

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Bill Acito 15-Feb-1996 1526 <acito@asdg.ENABLE.dec.com>
Subject: [4304] 75/80m Cap for Gap Vertical
Message-ID: <9602152028.AA26549@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Anyone have a list of capacitance and voltage ratings for the cap used in the Gap Titan to select the center freq on 75 and 80m?

I'm going to a hamfest on Saturday. Mine (on order) will be set for the CW portion of 80. I'd like to get a second cap for middle and 75M to play with if I can find them cheap.

b

. - I own my own words -
Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-1 ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)
Subject: [4281] 79r
Message-ID: <9602151323.AA18398@ig4.att.att.com>

Reminder:

3.578 MHz tonight (Thursday) 9 - 10 p.m. EST

Colorburst-79r Sprint

W1FMR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 15-Feb-1996 0957" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [4288] a QRP'er's shopping list
Message-ID: <9602151521.AA20779@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

QRPers,

Flea market season opens Saturday here in eastern Massachusetts with the Marlboro flea market, the first decent sized one of approximately four months of nearly continuous fleas, culminating with the ham mecca of the northeast, the Rochester/Hosstrader's flea in Rochester, NH.

So on that note, here's my annual post of the QRP shopping list I made up a couple years back. This was originally a one page list of every part (!) that appeared in "W1FB's QRP Notebook". It's since been updated with other useful stuff. Almost all of these have been checked, and are for sale *somewhere*... most of the obsolete/unavailable stuff has been weeded out.

Happy shopping...

P.S. A "+" means buy a lot of them.

A "++" means you'll possibly use dozens of them, so buy that many!

Bipolars			Dual-gate	JFETs	Amidon cores
2N918	2N3640	2N4427	MOSFETs	2N4416+	T25-2 FT23-43 L43-6
2N2222A+	2N3641	2N5179+	3N200 3SK51	2N4857	T37-2+ FT37-43+ L57-6+
2N2270	2N3904+		3N201 3SK72	2N5459	T44-2 FT50-43+ FB43-101
2N2857	2N3906		3N204 3SK73	2N5484	T50-2+ FT37-61+ Bead, 850mu
2N2907	2N4037		3N211 3SK74	2N5485	T68-2+ FT50-61
2N2925	2N4124		3N212 NTE221	2N5486	T80-2 FT37-63
2N3014	2N4126	MCL	3N213 NTE222	2SK19	T25-6 FT50-63
2N3053	2N4275	Mixers	3SK39 TA7150	MPF102+	T37-6+ FT37-72
2N3563	2N4400+	SRA-1	3SK40 TA7274	J310	T44-6 BLN43-202
2N3565	2N4401+	SBL-1	3SK45 40673		T50-6+ BLN43-302
2N3638	2N4403+		3SK48		T68-6+ BLN43-2402

Chips		Op Amps	Chokes	Mini Air	Ceramic, Mica
CA3011 (RCA)	MC1496G	741	1mH+	Variable	or Air Trimmer
CA3019	MC1590G	747	22uH+	15 100+	5 50

CA3028	MC3346P	1458	15uH	25 150	10 60+
CA3039	MC3362	TL081 (TI)	10uH	50 365	15 100+
CA3046	MWA110	TL082		(vernier	25 300
CA3102	NE555 (Phil)	NE5532 (Phil)	Enamel	knobs)	
LM373 (Natl)	NE565	NE5534	Wire		IF transformers
LM380	NE602	LF353 (Natl)	#12 #24		455 KHz
LM386	S5596K	LF356	#18 #26		9.0 MHz
LM723	SL621 (Ples)	LM301	#20 #28		10.7 MHz
MC1350P (Moto)	SL6440C	LM324 LM358N	#22 #30		(doub & sing tuned)

Disk Ceramic	NP0	Silver Mica	Electrolytic	Poly-
22 100+ 0.001+ (102)	22 100+	10 130 390	or Tantulum	styrene
27 130 0.005 (502)	27 130	22 150+ 470	1+	220
33 150+ 0.01+ (103)	47+ 150	33 180+ 560	2.2+	560
47+ 220 0.1++ (104)	56+ 220	47 220 750	4.7	1000
56+ 470	68	56 240 1000	10+	1500
68+ 680		68 270+ 1200	22+ (16 & 25V)	2000
(a few small value N750 for VF0s)		100 330 2000	220	2200+
			15000	10000

Resistors (1/4w 1/2w, comp film)

10+ 100++ 1.0k++ 10k++ 100k++	Meters,	Diodes	Varactors	Zeners
15 150 1.5k+ 12k 220k+	miniature	1N914+	MV2105	6.8V 33V
22 180+ 2.2k+ 15k 470k+	50uA	1N4148+	MV2109	9.1V 56V
33+ 220 2.7k 22k+	100uA	1N4152	MV2115	15V
47+ 270+ 3.3k+ 27k+ Pots	200uA	1N34(Ge)	MV104	(0.4 & 1W)
56+ 390 3.9k 33k 100k+	500uA	1N270(Ge)	MV209	
470+ 4.7k+ 47k+ 10k+				Hot-carrier
560+ 5.6k+ 56k+ 1k				HP2800 MBD101

RF-capable power transistors	Crystals	useful
(35MHz<ft<150MHz; ICmax>1A)	f /2 /3 /4	uproc-type
2N2102 2N6340 2SC1957	1.80	1.8432
2N3553 2N6341	3.50 1.75 1.17	3.5795 3.6864
2N3866 MJE180	7.00 2.33	7.00
2N4895 MPSU01 MJE181	10.10 5.05 3.37 2.53	5.0688
2N5039 MPSU03 MJE182	14.00 4.67	7.00
2N5320 MPSU04	18.07 9.04 6.02 4.52	
2N5321 MPSU05 D44H	21.00 10.50 5.25	7.00
2N5642 MPSU06 D44C	24.89 12.45 8.30 6.22	
2N5590 MPSU07	28.00 9.33	7.00
2N6338 MPSU45	50.00 25.00 16.67 12.50	
	144.0 72.00 48.00 36.00	48.00 72.00

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Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: edward.f.burke@bangate1.tek.com
Subject: [4305] AGC Noise and MC1350
Message-ID: <vines.iE39+uru61A@bangate2.tek.com>

Gang:

As I have admitted here in previous postings, I am very sensitive to spurious noises in the CW sidetone. My CW skills (marginal at best) are demolished by thumps, pops and other obnoxious sounds in the sidetone as I key my rig, so I have spent substantial time in attempting to eliminate them.

Recently I scratch-built a 20 meter transceiver that was based (in part) on the original Norcal Sierra, but wired for that single band only. I wanted a tiny rig with IF amplification and high-side injection for 20 meters, and parts of the Sierra architecture filled the bill nicely.

It worked quite well with a single exception; there was a loud pop at the beginning of each character string (of dots or dashes). Much too loud for me to be content with it. So I started to investigate the cause so that it might be eliminated.

First thing I found was that the pop was not really a pop at all. When I hooked up a digital storage scope I could see that the audio signature at the output of the LM386 was more like a "twang". The scope showed that there was a damped sinusoid which seemed to occur when the voltage at the AGC pin of the MC1350 was changed as the rig is keyed. Surprisingly, the frequency of the sinusoid was almost exactly the same as the sidetone note! What a funny coincidence! I then investigated further, and found that removing the first NE602 mixer did not stop the noise, but that lifting pin 4 of the MC1350 (thus breaking the connection between the crystal filter and the IF amp chip) did eliminate it.

I also fooled around with timing and found that the problem always occurred at the time that the AGC voltage on pin 5 of the MC1350 was changed. Slowing the slew rate of the voltage change with capacitors, or changing the magnitude of the voltage excursion (with diodes) helped some, but did not eliminate the pop.

When I studied the equivalent circuit diagram published in the Motorola data sheet, it occurred to me that the problem could be caused by unbalance. The chip has emitter-coupled inputs; both pins 4 and 6 are available. But most designers use a single ended input circuit and bypass pin 6 to ground with a medium sized capacitor (in the original Sierra a .047uF is used, and the voltage at pin 6 is "stolen" for the RIT circuit). I tried disconnecting that, and using a much smaller capacitor which would more closely approximate the impedance looking back into the crystal filter. Helped some, but no cigar!

My hypothesis is that the MC1350 produces an impulse when the AGC voltage is

changed and the impedances on pins 4 and 6 are not equal. The impulse excites the crystals in the crystal filter, and they ring at their natural frequency, which is of course the IF frequency. So the ringing goes right through the second crystal filter and becomes audio at the second mixer.

Then it occurred to me that transformer coupling was the best solution. I made up a simple coupling transformer (6 turn primary, 24 turn secondary on a FT37-61 core). I removed the original LC pad (L11 and C74 in the Norcal Sierra) and I hooked up the transformer as follows:

Primary	270 pF coupling cap to crystal filter
Primary	Ground
Secondary	Pin 4, MC1350
Secondary	Pin 6, MC1350

The problem was totally eliminated! A sweet, smooth side tone with no unwanted noises even for very sudden changes and large magnitude changes in the AGC.

Anyone who has an original Norcal Sierra should consider this change. The "stolen" RIT voltage can be reconnected to pin 2 of the NE602 BFO mixer (or, if you prefer, you can use a few diodes and a 50K current limiting resistor from the 8 volt supply to get a low voltage reference for the LM393).

I own a new Wilderness Sierra kit which I have not built yet, and I am going to incorporate this change when I do. (It's my next project). Even though the new Sierra uses an "artificial" side tone, the AGC voltage does change in normal operation, and this change should minimize spurious noise. Also, how about Oak Hills rigs which use an MC1350 as an IF amp?

Enjoy

Ed Burke, KI7KW

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: BRUCE3900@delphi.com
Subject: [4314] Authors -- FIDM approacheth!
Message-ID: <01I196HDFIIA9FODHN@delphi.com>

I have sent one copy of this to all the Four Days in May authors via their own email addresses. I post it here in case something went wrong with my postings AND because there may still be those among you who would be fascinated by the prospect of getting up in front of a room full of your QRP peers (that's small ones) and talking about your favorite subject, QRP!

If you are a new prospective author please take this posting to heart and

follow it. Also please send me an email telling me about your proposed topic.

73,

Bruce Muscolino -- W6TOY/3
FIDM TEchnical COordinator

AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR AUTHOR

Finally, here's the author package you've all been waiting for. The definitive skinny on how to submit your paper for FOUR DAYS IN MAY (c)!

What to submit: One printed copy of your text; one set of photos and drawings; and, a diskette with one or more copies of your text file. Why one or two? If you can get access to a machine running WORD6 for Windows, Save one copy of your paper as a .DOC file. Save a second copy as an "MS-DOS with line breaks" file. The second file will be used if there is any problem with the .DOC file. If you cannot get access to WORD6 for Windows, save two copies of your paper as ASCII text files. The purpose of the printed copy is to let me see if you had any special formatting in mind (section headings, etc.) I will try to preserve those.

PHotos and illustrations: All photos and illustrations will appear at the end of your paper. For photographs, take your negatives to a good professional quality photo lab and ask for REPRODUCTION Grade 5X7 inch black and white prints. Take negatives -- if you take prints they will charge you for making a negative. Don't worry if you only have color negatives -- there is a black and white printing paper called PANALURE that is used to make black and white prints from color negatives. A reproduction grade black and white print should look a little on the light side and be low in contrast. Some one-hour labs can make black and white prints on their machines. These can be OK if they are not printed too dark and too contrasty.

Illustrations: Here's where it gets a little messy. I need to have camera ready drawings. You can use any of a number of drawing packages to do this, even the immortal paintbrush program that's part of Windows. If you can't do this with a computer, please ink on good quality white paper. You can also use dropout paper (the paper with the faint blue gridlines. Make the drawings the same size as you want them to appear.

Deadlines: The final deadline to submit your paper is April 15, 1996. Just like taxes, except there aren't going to be any extensions. Get in the mail before April 15. Remember your editor is a volunteer and has a paper of his own to put together.

Questions: Questions will be taken via email. Send them to me at the

address in this header.

Thanks and 73,

Bruce Muscolino
W6TOY/3
PO Box 9333
Silver Spring, MD 20916

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [4286] CW Practice
Message-ID: <199602151515.PAA16393@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

The ultimate code practice program for the PC is a program called RUFZ.

RUFZ is an abbreviation for the German word "Rufzeichen" meaning call. This PC base program has a file of 14,000 real calls of many famous contestors and probably some that aren't so famous.

It is written by DL4MM, ex-DL3DZZ. It sends a call and you type it in. If you get it right you get points and it speeds up the next call. At the end of 50 calls it gives you a point value and shows your max and min code speed as measured using the standard word PARIS.

I just got it going a few days ago and it is very interesting. You have to concentrate and to me it's like random code groups, which I have never enjoyed. I prefer plain text - probably due to the old days of copying UPI and API news off the airwaves. (Is that one or two words?)

The program is distributed free to hams. I will see about getting a copy to Jim E. via mail and he can put it on the server. Something that you need to practice a lot on before the big contests like SS and WW DX.

FYI dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [4285] CW PRACTICE HELP
Message-ID: <1996Feb15.092351.19713@abs.net>

cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: CODE PRACTICE HELP

- 'Nuff bad news. Now for the good news. I was just informed by a
- co-worker that SuperMorse could send arbitrary QSOs. I tried it and
- it works. I like it.
- Regards,
- Charles
- KC5SNU

Charles,

I am not sure about SuperMorse, but NOIAI, Morse Tutor has a great feature which I have found is very useful for improving our CW copying ability. It will "Play back in CW any ASCII Text file". I have used it in the past to read over text that I had typed for practice. I was trying to improve my typing and code at the same time. Sometimes I wonder if I shouldn't have concentrated on one or the other. Hi! Hi! If you have some really boring stuff that you must read for work, etc. You can type it up or scan it into your word processor and save it as an ASCII text file and then Play it back while relaxing in the big easy chair. (Sleep learning is also good). I found that 25-30 WPM character speed was good. You can start off with lower overall speed, but Higher CHARACTER SPEED is RECOMMENDED. It helps you to get used to the sound of higher speed code. Most of us can make our brain operate slower, but few can make it go faster. Keep at it you will get better.

The secret three words to success are.... Practice!, Practice!, Practice!
QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G. Danny Gingell, K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

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George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [4306] Drake T4X QRP

Message-ID: <62c_9602151743@fido261.qis.net>

"Harvey D. D. Hetland" wrote in a message to All:

"DDH> From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <HDHETLAND@paccd.cc.ca.us>

"DDH> Subject: Drake T4X QRP

"DDH> This was originally sent directly to the person asking about QRP

"DDH> qith the Drake T4X series of transmitters, but was returned due

"DDH> to an invalid address. Sorry to take the list "bandwidth".

Thanks....not only for the mods...but also letting me know the address was bad...when my provider assured me there was no problem...I sent him your message...so now it's fixed (g)....another benefit of the QRP list.

"DDH> reduce the power when used with the Drake TC-6 and TC-2 6m and 2m

"DDH> transverters was to remove the screen voltage on the finals. The

Any idea of the values for the pot? Although it's probably not critical.

Thom LaCosta

N3WDV

Our Business is Business

--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net

|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: Frank Paxton III <paxton@sound.net>

Subject: [4311] error: lm380 should say 8 pin DIP

Message-ID: <3123C5D8.3CC6@sound.net>

last message said "lm380 9 pin dip sold out... i MEANT 8 pin dip.

still sold out... HI HI

frank.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)

Subject: [4279] Good QRP Rigs

Message-ID: <1996Feb15.070008.20439@abs.net>

Jerry, W4UKU and others have asked for recommends on what is a good QRP rig.

I think that can best be answered by a little research in the qrp-l archives. IMHO you can't go wrong if you pick one of the Regular QRP Suppliers that you read about here on the list. I am particularly pleased with The two new rigs that I purchased from Wilderness Radio this year. I have the NC-40A and The new Sierra. I am just about ready for the "Smoke Test" on the Sierra. I also have several others, some of which are still waiting for their turn at the soldering iron. You can never have too many QRP Rigs.. I would have one of each if I could afford them. The bottom line is pick one and build it. Wilderness, SWL, Oak Hills, 624 kits, and MXM are all very good. There are even group buys (Discounted prices) here on the qrp-l. I think that I saw a new one for MXM yesterday.
Happy hunting and QRP DX TU (C)1986 Danny Gingell,K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

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George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com
Subject: [4315] Immortal Omni A For Sale
Message-ID: <960215202257_145412551@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

It is with some sentimentality that I offer for sale my Omni A, Series B. Purchased new in June of 1980, this radio has served me well for over 15 years. Here is a partial list of accomplishments with this radio over this time period.

- Two world top ten finishes in the CQWW CW QRP category, 1989 from Asia(7J6CAM), 1991 from Europe(DA1SJ)
- Four Section Awards in Sweepstakes, Low Power Category
- Two first place, one 2nd place and one 3rd place finish in Class 1B Battery, ARRL Field Day
- It served as the second radio (behind a newer Corsair) for Top Ten U. S. Finish in the 1994CQ WPX CW contest
- It was my second radio for the recent NA Sprint, which is an unconfirmed top ten finish (#9) low power

This radio's durability never ceases to amaze me. It has traveled with me to 15 states and three continents with never a complaint. I'd be lying if I said it was in excellent shape, it is not, but it is in very good condition,

has the WARC mod installed, includes a Vista 20Amp supply, and a matching rotary inductor antenna tuner with balanced and unbalanced outputs, which is built in a matching 243 VFO cabinet supplied by TenTec.

This radio is highly usable as-is, but a "tune-up" at the factory would really enhance its performance. For that reason, I'm selling it at the very reasonable price of \$295 for the radio, PS and antenna tuner. An optional 1.8KHz filter is available for \$35.00. Please E-Mail me with your name and phone number and I'll call and discuss the radio indepth.

I have a second Corsair on the way (ultimately working my way up to an Omni VI), but want this radio to go to a good home for hopefully another 15 years.

73, Paul, KB8N

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: paxton@sound.net (frank paxton iii)
Subject: [4289] LM380N-8-ND 8 pin DIPs - CHEAP !!
Message-ID: <199602151550.JAA18270@echo.sound.net>

do you need the 8 pin version of the LM380 for your 49er ? can't find one ?
if you buy from DIGIKEY there's freight and \$5 handling on ANY orders
less than \$ 25 ! So from THEM one chip is \$ 1.40(chip) + \$ 3.00(ups) + 5.00
(handling) ... a total of \$ 9.40 for ONE CHIP !

i have a BUNCH of these chips and will sell them for \$ 1.50 each plus \$.50
freight/handling on the first chip (up to 4 more chips at no extra freight.)

i'll put your chips in an anti-static mat/tube taped to the center of the
envelope and send them to you 1st class mail (in a regular envelope) ...
that should work ok i think.

e-mail me if this works for you.

frank.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Jim Lowman <jlowman@iepsnet.com>
Subject: [4297] Low Power Communications books?
Message-ID: <199602151658.LAA19825@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Before Christmas, Rich put up a notice about availability of _Low Power

Communications_ volumes I-III.
Are these books still available to order?

Thanks in advance, and 72/73

de Jim - KF6CR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: dteague@iAmerica.net (Dave Teague)
Subject: [4271] Milliwatting and the WM-1 Wattmeter
Message-ID: <199602150429.WAA09232@ns2.iAmerica.net>

Well I just finished assembling the OHR WM-1 wattmeter last night (at about midnight). No complaints, the kit contained all parts and good instructions. Had no problem during assembly or alignment. First time for me to build a kit.

Purchased the kit because I am interested in milliwatting. Made my first milliwatt QSO tonite.
Heard KQ4S/qrp in Nashville calling CQ on 3.560 and answered him with 100 mw, received a 559 report, what a kick!

Running the Icom 737a here controlling low power using the ALC circuit.
Output variable down
to 0 watts. Antenna is a dipole @ 50ft.

Also bought the OHR Explorer II and plan to start building in a few days.
Will post a report on
how the assembly goes from a new kitbuilder's perspective.

The QRP bug seems to have bitten me bad (or good?).

Time to go check 40 meters. 72/73, Dave

Dave Teague KF5IU EM31 Jena, LA QRP-L #391 dteague@iAmerica.net

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu
Subject: [4309] Modern Radio Labs resurrected...
Message-ID: <01I192QJZVVM94N7HS@nova.wright.edu>

I just got home and found two messages on the phone answering doodad. One was the usual "if you need help, hang up and dial your operator." We get a batch of those now and then. It seems that the local phone system dials itself. Back a few years we'd get calls day and night. Most often, people would hang up. Some would ask "what time is it?" Some would say "what the hell?" Then we figured it out: our phone number had a string of digits that were common to the "time and temp" number. One night we got a call with someone going "what the hell?" and another voice saying "Time: 1:42 a.m. Temperature: 12 degrees." That's when I knew what was up. We tried to explain and explain to the all-so-cooperative folks but they were too technologically hooked on their own magic to give a flying rat's butt about us. So we got a free new number.

That number is the one dialed today around 2:50 p.m. by Paul Nelson of Modern Radio Labs. MRL, as many know, was the end-all, be-all place for crystal set loonies, tube-type TRF radio loonies and people like me. The original MRL was owned and operated by Elmer Ostenhoudt, who claimed to have been with radio since 1914, back when my father was 3 years old, living in Christiania, Norway, waiting for WW I. Well, Elmer, like all life, must have come to his end between my knowing him in the early 80s and recent time when I again became interested in crystal sets .

So now Paul Nelson runs MRL. I've lost the address 'cause I gave up waiting on the catalog that I'd written for. That was some months ago. And the file with that letter is gone into digital nothingness. Erased, as those who get to the point like to say. So I can't tell you where Modern Radio Labs is, exactly. But it lives and continues.

BY the way, Paul Nelson said that he had been inundated with requests for information. "Overpromoted" was his word for it. So now we know: Modern Radio Labs is resurrected but not quite yet mobile. I guess it takes a while to get that breathing on a regular basis back up to snuff. Brain stem damage or some such deal. Now, whoever has the Minneapolis, MN address for MRL, please repost it so the rest of us demented nostalgic old fuddy duddies can swamp poor ol' Paul Nelson with even more requests.

Inhale. Exhale. Inhale. Exhale. Now, isn't that better?

73
Nils
WB8IJN

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [4319] National Semiconductor devices
Message-ID: <199602160336.UAA18483@usr5.primenet.com>

Hi all. I just found a cool homepage for National Semiconductor, with data sheets and specs on their products. Try:

<http://www.webdirect.natsemi.com>

This leads me to a query: What is the difference between an LM-380 and an LM-380N? Still learning this stuff, and need to know.

72/73, de Roger, AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [4277] New 1996 QRP NET SCHEDULE
Message-ID: <1996Feb15.063418.20439@abs.net>

QRP ARCI 1996 NET SCHEDULE

NET	QRG	NCS	DAY/HR	UTC
TCN *	14060	NCS-W5LXS ANCS-K2LGJ	SUNDAY	2300
TCN remains at 2300 UTC Sunday Night Year-round, Except on night of QRP Contest when it Meets at 2400 UTC				
SEN **	7030 3535	NCS-K3TKS ANCS-AA10C	+WEDNESDAY	0100 0130
(Always 8 P.M. on Tuesday Night EST/EDT)				
GSN	3560	NCS-W5TTE (Net Temporarily Inactive)	+THURSDAY	0200
GLN	3560	NCS-W1CFI ANCS-WA1JXR	+THURSDAY	0200

(Always 9 P.M. on Wednesday night EST/EDT)

NEN	7040-41	NCS-K3TKS	SATURDAY	1300
		ANCS-KC1DI		

(Always 8 A.M. on Saturday morning EST/EDT)

WSN-80	3558	NCS-KI6SN	+THURSDAY	0400
		ANCS-KD7S		

(Always 8 P.M. on Wednesday night PST)

WSN-40	7040	NCS-W6SIY	SATURDAY	1700
		ANCS-W6JHQ-W6RCP-W6SIY-NJ7M		

(Always 9 A.M. on Saturday morning PST/PDT)

* On weekends of major contests TCN will meet one hour later.
 ** If conditions on 7030KHz are poor, QSY to 3535KHz at 0130 UTC,
 (0030 UTC Spring/Summer).
 + Evening of the day before of W/VE.
 ADJUST ALL UTC TIMES TO 1 HOUR EARLIER WHEN LOCAL TIME SWITCHES
 TO DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME IN SPRING, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Please note that 3535KHz is the Michigan QRP Club Net Frequency
 at 0200 UTC. (Always 9 P.M. on Tuesday Night) (chk also 3536KHz)
 MI QRP WELCOMES ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN QRP TO QNI ON THE NET.
 Jerry - K8JRO - is Net Control Station for Michigan QRP Club.

OTHER QRP NETS ===== CHECK-IN for the latest QRP News.

=====

BC Group (SSB)	3729		Every Evening	0300/0530	UTC
MI-QRP	3535	K8JRO [Tue.]	+WEDNESDAY	0200	UTC
NE-QRP [SSB]	3855	WA1JXR [Mon.]	MONDAY	2100	EST
NEIQS (NE illinois QRP)	3560	[Thur]		0200	
UTC					
OK QRP Group	7060 or 3560	[Sun.]		1330	UTC
NW-QRP	10123	N7MFB [Mon.]	+TUESDAY	0200	
UTC					
NW-QRP Ragchew	7035	[Sat.]		0730	WST
N.C.QRP ASSOC.	3710	WA4NID-AA4XX [Sun.]	"KNIGHTLITES"	2200	EST
VE-QRP	14060	VE6BLY [Sun.]	SUNDAY	1800	UTC

Please remember to tell your friends about the QRP Nets,
 They might decide to join us after seeing how friendly we can be.
 Yes, the keyboard can also QRS ! (Slow Down). 72 ES QRP DX TU DANNY,
 K3TKS

NOTICE !!! We have openings for NCS/ANCS on all ARCI Nets.

WARNING ! QRP NETS have been proven to be addictive.
 Permission is Granted to Freely Copy and Distribute this Schedule.
 QRP ARCI NETWORK MANAGER - Danny Gingell, K3TKS (C) 1996
 K3TKS@bbs.abs.net (Internet) or Packet K3TKS @ WB3FFV.MD.NOAM.USA
 Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library (301)572-6789

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Frank Paxton III <paxton@sound.net>
Subject: [4307] NO MORE LM380 9 pin DIPS available :(
Message-ID: <3123C07E.7ED7@sound.net>

sorry...sold out...
frank paxton iii = ng0n.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [4272] NW80 receive section up
Message-ID: <960214234523_144705275@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

I have been watching the postings, and several of my friends are just starting their NWs. My NW 20 is done and in the box. Cosmetics will wait a little while longer. I have my NW80 board on the bench, with the VFO, RIT, Keying, Audio, and now Receiver strip all up and running. No glitches (since I figured out my error in winding the VFO toroid) , and no significant instruction errors, and no missing parts so far. Comforting.

I am hearing good signals on 80. Sig strength on 80 at night is so prodigious that even with the VBT closed down, I still hear strong sigs. On my NW20, I can effectively make the radio deaf by closing the VBT all the way. 20 just isn't getting big sigs with the sunspots down in the pits. So far, my only gripe is that the post filter amplifier Q9 draws extra current, though I am not particularly unhappy about that. I will measure and post the actual current draw of these rigs, for those who plan to operate in the field, when the radios are done. The rest is going together fine. Expect to have the NW80 on the air by this weekend, and will post updated, final review shortly thereafter. I do really like the strong speaker quality audio in these rigs.

CUL es 72, all. Happy Valentine's.
Preston WJ2V

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [4292] NW80/20 - Part V
Message-ID: <199602151630.LAA29138@mh004.infi.net>

Gang,

I have to interrupt my Saga to say what a great bunch you are! I've started receiving hints and suggestions from QRP-L members who just can't stand the pain any longer. And I thank you for them. Up until now, the written saga has been lagging the actual work. With this episode, you will all be caught up with me.

All right. We are essentially where we were at the end of Part II. The transceiver is built and in its case, the receiver works, but there is no power output.

Lets get serious now about logical troubleshooting. We know now that the current draw isn't a problem, and the receiver works, so let's march through the transmitter, checking stages. The easiest check will be to check voltages on the transisters, Q6,Q7 and Q8, the PA. Q6 checks ok, and so does Q7. Nothing on Q8 - Nada.

Well, we've got to remove the board from the case again. (exponentially more pain) As soon as it's out we look at Q8's pins, and there, hidden underneath the +12V jumper wire is the collector pin which has NEVER BEEN SOLDERED. How simple! When I solder a circuit, I always load several parts, then solder just one pin of a part at a time, moving from part to part to give them cooling time.

So, this kind of error is not surprising. I knew it would be something simple like this! FINALLY! LET'S GET THIS RIG ON THE AIR!

We put the board back in the case and reconnect everything. (I believe the reader has the picture that this is not a two minute job, however, I'm getting faster at it) Switch on, everything go, key down, -- nothing. Check voltage on the PA, Q7. No voltage. Well, there must be something else wrong.

We remove the board from the case, again (etc., etc.) We sit here on a stool at the bench and have a conference with ourself. "Self", we say, "It's long past time we quit being impetuous." "Before we put this thing in its case again, let's be sure it's working properly" Self hangs his head and says, "Ok, GOOD IDEA." Self respectfully refrains from adding, "What took you so long, stupid?"

Let's look at the board traces, and see that everything around the PA is as it should be. Well HOLY MACKERAL, the Base trace just goes to an open land. Nowhere. Looking at the top of the board there's a little box there with FB

in it. Many circuits have a Ferrite Bead in the base circuit of the PA, but I didn't find any in the parts baggies. There's a wire sticking out of one of the holes. Hmmmm. I remember something about a wire located near the FB point on the board. Time to reread the instructions. Here it is, page 14, "insert wire at point marked 'FB' near R33". -- and, indeed, that's what I had done! Obviously, we need a jumper here.

Hook up the Dummy load, power, key, speaker and check for POWER OUTPUT!!
None, even after turning up R14.

----- TO BE CONTINUED -----

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [4317] NW80/20 - Part V-1/2
Message-ID: <199602160238.VAA03434@mh004.infi.net>

Guys,

There comes a time when you just have to fall back and regroup.

Yesterday was Valentine's day, and I sing in a barbershop quartet. We had 18 gigs yesterday delivering singing valentines (and a rose). Saw more women cry in one day than I ever imagined. (no, it wasn't the quality of our singing that made them cry, -- It was the thoughtfulness of their husbands and the song, "If you were the only girl in the world")

This afternoon, I became a grandfather again, a male child to carry on the Kellogg name. (after this QRP saga he'll have it changed)

Finally, the cards and letters keep pouring in. A surprising one (to me) from Steven Karty. He said he never heard of a heat sink compound that was conductive.

Well, I never had either, but I'm here to tell you that the dead short cleared up when I cleaned the compound away from the mica and the nylon screw.

So, I went to the shack, got out the compound and stuck my meter probes into the end of the tube. IT DID NOT CONDUCT. The only thing I can figure is that some filings from the case got into the compound. This could have happened because at one point I filed on a hole so reassembly would be easier.

Tomorrow, I will resume work on the NW80/20. Until then, thanks for your support. I really believe this is a fine little rig, but Murphy has been riding on my shoulder, and the harder I try to get the rig on the air, the more active he is.

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [4308] radios
Message-ID: <8E14F5D61@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

All right---an epiphyte is a plant that nourishes itself but grows on the surface of another plant. It has been years since I taught THAT concept.

BUT-----last week, in the same breath as the 49er, another radio was mentioned. FAR is making the boards for it and an article will appear in the next QRPP. If I recall correctly, it was a SSB rig. Maybe not.

Anyhow, does this ring any chimes on what the radio was and what it was all about?? I really do not feel like recalling all digests from last week.

Thanks. By the way---the Altoids are not bad. They are strong but...

72 de Tim WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125
(219)980-6866

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: DuWayne Schmidlkofer <duwayne@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [4310] Read: QRP Antennas for 40 Meters
Message-ID: <01BAFBD4.15ACE1C0@atl-ga7-10.ix.netcom.com>

----- =_NextPart_000_01BAFBD4.15DF3C60
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- =_NextPart_000_01BAFBD4.15DF3C60
Content-Type: application/ms-tnef
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64

eJ8+IhYXAQaQCAAEAAAAAAAAABAAEAAQeQBgAIAAAAA5AQAAAAAAAAADoAAENgAQAAgAAAAIAAgABBJAG
AAwBAAAABAAAADAAAAAAMAADACAAAAACwAPDgAAAAACAf8PAQAAAD8AAAAAAAAAAgSsfPL6jEBmdbgDd
AQ9UAgAAAAABxcnAtbEBsZWhpZ2guZWZWR1AFNNVFAAcXJwLWxAbGVoaWdoLmVkdQAAHgACMAEAAAAF
AAAAU01UAAAAAAAAeAAMwAQAAABEAAAABxcnAtbEBsZWhpZ2guZWZWR1AAAAAAMAFQwBAAAAAwD+DwYA
AAAEAAEwAQAAABMAAAANcXJwLWxAbGVoaWdoLmVkdScAAAAIBCzABAAAAAFgAAAFNNVFA6UVJQLUxA
TEVISudILkVEVQAAAAAAMAADKAAAAACwBAOgEAAAAACAfYPAQAAAAQAAAAAAAAACYCwBCIAHACAAAAABJ
UE0uTWlJcm9zb2Z0IE1haWwUUmVhZCBSZW50ZWZWR1aXB0AAMLAQqAAQAAhAAAAANDRGMDKzOTZDMjY2Q0Yx
MUJCNzUwMEFBMDAwRDBFRUEAJgcBBIAABCEAAABSZWFk0iBRU1AgQW50ZW5uYXMGZm9yIDQwIE1l
dGVycwCcCgEFgAMADgAAAMwHAgAPAAgAEgAgAAQAIgEBIIADAA4AAADMBwIADwAIABIAIAAEACIB
AQmAAQAAhAAAAANjc5QTlENTk3MTY3Q0YxMUJBRTY0NDQ1NTM1NDAAwMDAA8gYBA5AGACQCAAAATAAAA
AwAmAAAAAABAADIAgMhkGqj7ugFAADKAgMhkGqj7ugECAUMAAQAAAD8AAAAAAAAAAgSsfPL6jEBmd
bgDdAQ9UAgAAAAABxcnAtbEBsZWhpZ2guZWZWR1AFNNVFAAcXJwLWxAbGVoaWdoLmVkdQAAHgBEAAEA
AAAAAAAcXJwLWxAbGVoaWdoLmVkdQAAAAAAeAEkAAQAAABsAAAABRU1AgQW50ZW5uYXMGZm9yIDQw
IE1ldGVycwAAAgFMAAEAAAA/AAAAAAAAAIErH6S+oxAZnW4A3QEPVAIAAAAAAcXJwLWxAbGVoaWdo
LmVkdQBTTVRQAHFycC1sQGxlaGlnaC5lZHUAAB4ATQABAAAAEQAAAHFycC1sQGxlaGlnaC5lZHUA
AAAAQABOAGA5V08D+7oBQABVAAC9n/xc+7oBHgBwAAEAAAAAbAAAAUVJQIEFudGVubmFzIGZvcIA0
MCBNZXRlcnnMAAAIBcQABAAAAAFgAAAAAG6+wNPT5aT8FBmwhHPu3UAqgANDuoAAB4AdAABAAAAACwAA
ACdRU1AgbG1zdCcAAB4AHgwBAAAAABQAAAFNNVFAAAAAAHgAfDAEAAAAWAAAAZHv3YXluZUBpeC5u
ZXRjb20uY29tAAAAHgABEAEAAAAVAAAAATWVzc2FnZSB3YXMGcmVhZCBvbjoAAAAAQAAHMMCGWxqo
+7oBQAAIMMCGWxqo+7oBHgA9AAEAAAAABAAAAAAADeB

----- =_NextPart_000_01BAFBD4.15DF3C60--

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: RHILTO@acxiom.com
Subject: [4302] Re[3]: QRP Antennas for 40 Meters
Message-ID: <12394be0@acxiom.com>

Brian: Would that line be Long- or Short-path to the receiving station?

Bob ki5ez

>How about a field intensity of 500 microvolts / meter, 1 kilometer
>from the transmitting station along a line between the sending and
>receiving station. there that should settle it ;-)

>Brian AE9K

rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM wrote:

|I was just thinking.. Someone should define "true QRP" to be:
|
|5 watts or less into a single element antenna.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [4291] Soldering
Message-ID: <199602151630.LAA31813@mh004.infi.net>

Gang,

Just another endorsement of the temperature controlled irons. I got mine at a yard sale for \$5. (The guys wife sold it to me) After one soldering trial, I was sold. I've used it now for close to 10 years, and have replaced the element once. Mine is the low voltage 24V version that retails for about \$130 now.

Peter Simpson said:

>I'd just like to back up the comments of those who recommended the
>temperature controlled irons. I recently bought my son his first
>soldering iron. It's a used Weller WTCPN and it cost me \$31 postpaid from
>a ham in Washington state who had advertised it on Usenet.
>

Your whole post was right on, Peter. I may be having a time with the NW80/20, but the problems have been mostly between my ears, not at the tip of the iron!

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Probably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [4293] STRANGE PHENOM.
Message-ID: <9601158244.AA824409832@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Folks:

Just remembered a question I meant to ask you all
a few days ago...

... As I mentioned, I put up a home brew vertical
last weekend while the wx here was warm. It is a
ground mounted quarter wave for 20m and I have
about 30 1/4 wave radials at the base. So far it's
working very well, and I've worked all that I can hear
including some nice DX (finally!).

Here's the question: My rig is a MFJ 9020 which IMHO has
a very hot receiver, good gain, good sensitivity, etc.
With the new vertical, I get interference from WWV across
the entire 20m CW band. It is hard to describe, the
interference is not booming in, but seems to be "riding"
across the band. It is almost like I'm imagining I'm
hearing it, just sort of lightly in the background. I
know it's WWV only because of the obvious "clock tick"
sounds, and the top of the minute BEEP sound. The vocal
time announcement is just enough to be distinguishable.

I know that this is probably a type of front-end overloading
effect due to some design of the rig. However, why does this
show up when the vertical is used as opposed to my 20m
dipole? Is this due to the polarization differences in
vertical vs horizontal antennas? Is the vertical "hearing
longer"/better vs the dipole? If so, this is a good example of
real world antenna science in action.

Any explanation would be of value here. Thanks!

72 de Dave KK5HA

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [4278] Ten-Tec Parts, etc.
Message-ID: <1996Feb15.064727.20439@abs.net>

I noticed one or two here on the list inquiring about parts and info on Ten-Tec equipment. I have found that it is best to go right to the horse and ask. Try Ten-Tec Service Department at (615)428-0364. I hope that is still a good number.
QRP DX TU (C)1986 Danny Gingell,K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [4273] WA3NNA FOXHUNT REPORT
Message-ID: <9602150448.AA27660@gvlf6-a>

Boy, 40 would be such a nice band without those BC stations..

In general most signals were pretty strong but that 7110 segment is next to impossible! Maybe you guys out west don't hear them quite as strong. The best I could do was crank all the filters in and settle for the quietest spot I could find between the 2 BC station on 7105 and 7115. Way up near 7140 starts to quiet down a little but I was afraid nobody would find me all the way up there. The s-meter was still hanging up around s8-s9 from all of the splatter from the 2 BC stations... and when one of them started to play some music it REALLY tore things up... Anyway, by some miracle I managed to work 3 stations up there.. and almost a 4th.. I could tell many others were in there but could not pull them through the BC QRM..

05 FEB 96 --7110--

UTC	CALL	SENT	RCVD	OTHER STUFF	
0104	W00Q	279	559	Marty	CO
0111	NQ7X	259	569	missed the name	AZ
0115	KK6M	something	called me		
0121	W5NHS	339	449	Henry	TX

----- QSY to 7040 at 0125 -----

0127	N4UCM	599	559	Doug	Crystal River FL
0138	N6ULU	559	---	didn't answer me ???	
0130	KK6MC	559	559	Jim	NM
0145	W6ZH	559	559	Pete (neat!) :)	CA
0148	AK5B	579	569	Bob	TX
0150	N6ULU	559	559	Stan (take II)	CA
0156	NA5N	549	459	Paul	NM
0152	AA7QU	559	550	Russ	OR
0200	AB5OU	459	579	Tim	NM

.. then K5HQV stole my frequency and started calling AB5OU..
.. had to hunt for new frequency.. ended up at 7045...
0205 copied "How bout a QRP WOLF?" Huh???
.. looked for another frequency... ended up back near 7041
.. called CQ for a long time.. no answers...
0218 WB3GCK 559 559 Craig PA (about 12 miles away)
0221 AB5UA 559 449 Clif OK
0225 K6VNX 549 449 Allen ??
0229 KK5RO 449 449 Vernon OK QRP-L # 325
0233 K5UP 569 559 Glen OK
.. lots more CQing... can't wait until 0300 :-)
0245 K2NF 559 559 Norm FL QRP-L # 220
0248 NA5K/M 559 449 Smitty TX Dallas
0251 AD6DG 449 449 John ??
0258 W5TTE 449 459 Ed NM

---- QSY to 3560 ---- these do not count for the FOXhunt ----

0305	N1QQV	589	579	Ken	CT
0315	K9D??	called me along with N2CX. Asked the K9 to standby..			
0315	N2CX	579	589	Joe	NJ had a funny chipry sig
0319	called for the K9 ... gone...				
0320	N1RXT	589	459	Chuck	MA QRP-L # 206
0331	KK8	something calling me way down in the noise...			
0332	WR4A	579	579	Herb	Madison AL 100watts
0340	typed in this silly report :-)				

So, thats it for round 2 of the QRP FOXhunt.. Generally signals were pretty good except for the novice band where the sigs were strong but so was the QRM. Notice the reports I was giving out - 279 ! Good signal but too much QRM!

N1QQV reported hearing people working me on 40 but he could not hear me on 40. Simply too close for 40 that time of night.. but perfect for 80.

I count 20 good QSOs on 40 (+ 4 more on 80 just for fun)

Any errors above are probably typos.. Let me know and I will fix it.

That's about it. Thanks to all and good night.

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [4274] WA3NNA FOXHUNT REPORT - CORRECTION
Message-ID: <9602150454.AA27699@gvlf6-a>

The date should read 15 FEB 96 not 05 FEB 96

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: teda@lexis-nexis.com (Ted Albert)
Subject: [4283] Re: 79r
Message-ID: <199602151358.IAA02500@rain.lexis-nexis.com>

> Reminder:
>
> 3.578 MHz tonight (Thursday) 9 - 10 p.m. EST
>
> Colorburst-79r Sprint
>
> W1FMR
>
>

Last week the winning combination for me was the T-Kit DC receiver mounted in a K5F0 project case and the ugly constructed Universal QRP transmitter from Solid-State Design using a 2N3053 in the final. The Pixie netted zero contacts, but it was interesting listening to the evening talk show from a local AM powerhouse. Gave up on that after 9:45 PM and used the combination listed above.

Stations worked: W8KUX in PA, W3TS in MD
Partial QSO: WA3SRE
Heard: K2LGJ/X, W1FMR/X

72 de Ted, KF8EE

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [4312] Re: AGC Noise and MC1350
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960215154446.29341C-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Ed, Great info! Thanks for sharing it with this group.
72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [4313] Re: AGC Noise and MC1350
Message-ID: <v02130503ad497c57c4db@[199.170.106.28]>

Hi Ed, and thanks for the interesting notes on the Sierra's AGC.

>[on a the Sierra built from scratch] there was a loud pop at the beginning
>of each character string

I haven't heard this on any of the production or club Sierras, so it may be that your from-scratch Sierra has different ground loops or decoupling problems (might be better or worse, depending on how you built it). In general I recommend that people add more decoupling if they don't use my original PCB design. My PCB design probably saved me from some decoupling problems, since one entire side is ground plane.

>it occurred to me that the problem [pop]
>could be caused by unbalance [in the MC1350]

Good analysis; same thing can happen with other differential-mode devices, like the NE602 and LM386.

>My hypothesis is that the MC1350 produces an impulse
>when the AGC voltage is changed and the impedances on
>pins 4 and 6 are not equal...transformer coupling

>was the best solution.

I've tried this, too, but for other reasons: improved impedance match to the crystal filter, or improved I.F. gain.

An alternative to transformer matching might be to simply add a resistor from pin 4 to pin 6. This would provide improved DC balance, although you wouldn't want to use too small a resistor or you'd lose signal. I'd start with about 10K and work down to find the size needed. This would be simpler than adding a transformer. If the required resistor is too small, obviously the transformer would be the way to go. (I try to avoid putting transformers into kits unless necessary, since they're a bit more complicated for beginning builders.)

>I own a new Wilderness Sierra kit which I have not built yet,
>and I am going to incorporate this change when I do...this
>change should minimize spurious noise.

Actually, I'd be surprised if it did, since the new Sierra has a dual-JFET mute circuit that cuts off the A.F. long before any AGC side-effects would be seen. However, if you find that the new Sierra can be improved in this way please let me know.

>How about Oak Hills rigs which use an MC1350 as an IF amp?

I don't know what Dick is doing at the input to his MC1350, but I'd guess he's using the resistor as I suggested above.

73 and thanks again,
Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Subject: [4301] Re: CW Practice
Message-ID: <199602151946.AA16380@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

> Chuck Adams writes:
>
> The ultimate code practice program for the PC is a

> program called RUFZ.
>
> RUFZ is an abbreviation for the German word "Rufzeichen"
> meaning call. This PC base program has a file of 14,000
> real calls of many famous contestors and probably some
> that aren't so famous.
>
> It is written by DL4MM, ex-DL3DZZ. It sends a call
> and you type it in. If you get it right you get points
> and it speeds up the next call. At the end of 50 calls
> it gives you a point value and shows your max and min
> code speed as measured using the standard word PARIS.
>

Another very good Contest CW practice program is
PED. If you have a soundcard on the PC it can generate
a pileup of up to 16 calls at once. It has the look and
feel of CT and NA contesting programs, so not only do you
get practice at copying calls, you get practice at using the
contesting software you would use in the big contests.

It is at:

<ftp://wuarchive.wustl.edu/systems/ibmpc/simtel/msdos/hamradio/ped411i.zip>

I imagine it can be found at any of the SIMTEL mirror sites
under msdos/hamradio as well.

have fun - Warren

--

Warren E. Lewis
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SAS Institute Inc.
Cary, NC

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PP-ASEL
AD4ZE QRP-L#78 DOD#0021

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: hysell@kodak.com (John D. Hysell)
Subject: [4280] Re: FT-840 at QRP levels
Message-ID: <9602151226.AA13042@runner.itc.Kodak.COM>

Greg KN4FR was wondering if the FT-840 can be dropped to 5watts from the front
panel...

YES - I have an 840 as my MAIN station rig, and it works quite well in that role.
I

was a bit disappointed in the lack of filters, but the addition of an external DSP unit fixed that nicely (I use the W9GR model 3).

I also use the 840 to drive a ten-tec 6m transverter - just crank down the RF output (front panel knob) all the way to 5 (min setting) and away she goes! I also popped in the optional FM unit, so I can work 10m and 6m FM with this arrangement...

I have had the 840 for 2 years now, and remain very pleased with it.

73 -John

KF2XC

(Oh yeah - if anybody is interested in 6m QRP FM, I have a RAMSEY transceiver for sale. Works fine; output 2.7 watts; 12 "memories"; includes full metal case, manual speaker/mic and extra RF diodes to alter "memories" -\$150 shipped to 48 states.)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: OHRQRP@aol.com

Subject: Re: OHR-400 AGC

Steve,

The AGC circuit in the 400 is designed to engage at abt 3 microvolts of signal at the ant. You can try increasing the value of R245 from its present value of 33K to 47K or 56K. This resistor is on the receiver board.

Increasing the value of R245 will send more signal to the AGC circuit.

Also, if the AGC circuit is not effective enough for you, you should try using the RF gain control which controls the gain of the MC1350P IF amp.

Someone posted an AGC mod on the QRP-L list yesterday. In this mod he shorted out the 22K resistor going to the gate of the MPF102 in the AGC circuit and connected a different diode across the exsisting diode. This mod is not recommened as it will result in very distorted signals.

Sincerely,

Dick Witzke, KE8KL

OHR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: Steve Bornstein <saborn@freenet.columbus.oh.us>

Subject: [4287] Re: OHR-400 AGC (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.3.07.9602151018.A5586-a100000@acme>

----- Forwarded message -----
From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [4290] RE: QRP Antennas for 40 Meters
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960215160619.25bf88f0@garnet.inel.gov>

>Greetings all
>I've been in ham radio for about 20 years but have never really been
>serious about QRP DXing. What type of antenna do I need for 40 meter QRP
>DXing? Space is not a problem.
>
Well, you could go "whole hog" and put up a two (heck, make it three!)
element full-size beam at 90 (heck, make it 120!) feet.

But to me, that's not in the spirit of "true QRP"... I know others advocate
the best antenna possible to maximize the effectiveness of low power, but I
just can't see spending 10 times more on an antenna than on a rig (skip the
flames; I've heard 'em all before)! I have never used anything more
elaborate than a vertical (various types) on 40 and have 40M DXCC; 82 of the
108 countries confirmed were worked QRP.

I am currently using a GAP Voyager vertical, and I highly recommend it for
160/80/40 meters (it also works well on 20 and 10). If you use a quarter
wave vertical, I recommend mounting it 10 to 20 feet above ground with
elevated quarter-wave radials (minimum of three; four to six would be
better). Since you say space is no problem, you might consider a phased
array of verticals to get a little gain and directivity.

My two bits worth ...

"Any opinions expressed herein are my own and probably do
not agree with those of my employer, the U.S. Government
or my spouse"

--... ..--

Larry V. East (W1HUE)

Idaho Falls, ID

e-mail: LVE1@inel.gov

Packet: W1HUE@WT7B.ID.USA.NOAM

work: (208) 533-4005 home: (208) 529-2162

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [4295] Re: QRP Antennas for 40 meters
Message-ID: <9602151656.AA29571@gvlf6-a>

Larry V. East (W1HUE) writes...

->Well, you could go "whole hog" and put up a two (heck, make it three!)
->element full-size beam at 90 (heck, make it 120!) feet.
->
->But to me, that's not in the spirit of "true QRP"... I know others advocate
->the best antenna possible to maximize the effectiveness of low power, but I
->just can't see spending 10 times more on an antenna than on a rig (skip the
->flames; I've heard 'em all before)! I have never used anything more
->elaborate than a vertical (various types) on 40 and have 40M DXCC; 82 of the
->108 countries confirmed were worked QRP.

I was just thinking.. Someone should define "true QRP" to be:

5 watts or less into a single element antenna.

The single element could be a dipole, inv-vee, vertical, loop, long wire,
etc. Some loops or wires may offer a slight gain over a dipole but for
simplicity, still call them single element.

I would not go so far as to say "unity gain" antenna. The goal would still
be to squeeze as much gain out of a single element or loop as possible.

Although one should always strive for the most efficient antenna as possible,
I agree that 5 watts into a nice high dipole is still not the same as 5 watts
into a 6 element yagi at 130 feet. It is just not comparing apples to apples.

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Bill Acito 15-Feb-1996 1258 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [4299] re: QRP Antennas for 40 meters
Message-ID: <9602151846.AA18736@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM wrote:

|I was just thinking.. Someone should define "true QRP" to be:
|
|5 watts or less into a single element antenna.

a-00000-gah a-ooooo-gah Dive! Dive! Dive! Rat-hole alert!

For those of you who missed the last time this went around,
in addition please be prepared to discuss:

- is using a 7-ele quad really qrp?
- is using a \$3000 radio really qrp?
- is using a spotting network and a keyboard keyer really qrp?
- is using commercial power or a DSP really qrp?

:-) :-) :-) smiles and humor intended

Seriously, I think this will always be a bone of contention.
I, personally, take the opposite view.

From a competitive point of view, my take on QRP is power only;
anything you can do to maximize RF power transfer to the antenna
(hardline and silver N-connectors), or maximize it's transfer to
the receiving station (directional antennas, operator technique)
is fair game. There are just too many other variables to consider
if you want to level the field. Watts of RF energy is a nice
constant, easily measured quantity. I see QRP as more of
maximizing less-than-five-watts than equalizing it if you're
after performance.

I'd hate to see the miles/watt records turn into...

40M

KC1GS 1,545,000 miles/watt/antenna element/feet antenna height/soil
conductivity/feet of coax feed

From an enjoyment point of view: I'd love to have Ernie's (MVN)
farm, but I don't. I, ironically, have a single element vertical.
But I don't feel it's any less 'real' qrp. Everyone has their own
level of challenge they want to pursue... from the guy sitting
in the leather captains chair, walls full of Work all this and 5
Band worked all that, who turns down the drive control on his

\$3000 radio and the stacked 7-element yagi's, to the guy
shivering in a tent, keying a knife switch with heavy mittens to
run his rock-bound 100mw rig into 50 ft of magnet wire he threw
up into a pine with a rock. It's very real QRP to both of them.
'Less than 5 watts' includes both of them.

(for I second there, I sounded like Nils :-)

I actually worry more that I spend too much time building than
operating... now that's real qrp. :-)

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito

acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-l ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996

From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)

Subject: [4316] re: QRP Antennas for 40 meters

Message-ID: <199602160135.UAA25051@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> From an enjoyment point of view: I'd love to have Ernie's (MVN)
> farm,

> to the guy
> shivering in a tent, keying a knife switch with heavy mittens to
> run his rock-bound 100mw rig into 50 ft of magnet wire he threw
> up into a pine with a rock. It's very real QRP to both of them.
> 'Less than 5 watts' includes both of them.

> (for I second there, I sounded like Nils :-)

> - I own my own words -

> Bill Acito

> acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

> |d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

>

> KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-l ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

Hello Bill,

You are hereby invited to the ANT FARM , you pick the weekend and we can have a ball.

(BTW, you have a long way to go to sound anything like Nils.)

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: "Norman E. Fink" <norm@uu1238.flowerslabs.com>
Subject: [4294] Re: QRPer's Shopping List
Message-ID: <9602151628.AA14137@flowerslabs.com>

All,

I want to thank Tom, N100Q, for the time and effort he put into compiling the great QRPer's shopping list. It's the first one I've gotten.

I can see the list being used in numerous ways. Some of them are:

- 1) As an inventory of my QRP junkbox (what I have, how many, etc.)
- 2) As a great tool for someone starting and adding to a new QRP junkbox
- 3) As a shopping list (Keep it handy to highlight or add things I want or need as I think of them)
- 4) As a cheat sheet to know what's hot and what's not at flea markets

(If I come across something I'm not sure of, I can check the list)
5) As a parts checkoff sheet for that neat project I found in the ham

magazine.

I plan to make several copies of the list to have on hand for the different uses. I'm sure they'll come in quite handy. Fold one up and put it into your billfold or purse to carry with you at all times. Send one to your kids along with a flyer about that new QRP kit you've been wanting, and tell them to make a choice as to which one they'll get you for your birthday and/or Christmas.

Now I have a ready-made list to carry with me to the various flea markets and/or hamfests. No telling how much good stuff I've missed out on without even knowing what it was (I already feel more intelligent.)

Thanks again, Tom.

Norm, K2NF

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: V\$BCIESLAK@qtiworld.com
Subject: [4300] RE:RE: QRP Antennas for 40 Meters
Message-ID: <01I18SIUYZGY00AE96@hub.qgraph.com>

How about a field intensity of 500 microvolts / meter, 1 kilometer from the transmitting station along a line between the sending and receiving station.

there that should settle it ;-) (and yes, I know I spelled field wrong)

Brian AE9K

rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM wrote:

| I was just thinking.. Someone should define "true QRP" to be:
|
| 5 watts or less into a single element antenna.

a-00000-gah a-ooooo-gah Dive! Dive! Dive! Rat-hole alert!

For those of you who missed the last time this went around,

in addition please be prepared to discuss:

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [4298] Re: re> soldering irons
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960215104112.3840B-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Hi Mike,

One caution.....be ready for fire!

I used one for a long time till one day, on a mountain top,
inside a little building, whoooossh, up in flame it went.

Me, being of sound mind and having the ability to think
fast, tossed it to my partner who was standing just inside
the door.

As it got closer and closer to him, his eyes got bigger and
bigger untill he had it in his hands. (I still don't understand
why he had his mouth open so far).....

Me, again being of sound mind and being the helpfull soul that
I am, suggested that he quickly place the offending tool outside
and cover it with dirt!

To this day that center pin on the hard like is not soldered!

The moral of this tale? Never stand in the only opening to
the outdoors when someone is using a propane iron!

(Oh, OK, I'll tell you how it happened.....seems that the
little refill valve on the bottom of the iron didn't seal
100% and soon the leaking gas found the heat of the little
glowing tip).

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
...ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
...QRP-L #17....ARRL....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: V\$BCIESLAK@qtiworld.com
Subject: [4303] RE: Re[3]: QRP Antennas for 40 Meters
Message-ID: <01I18UNE7XUA00A0II@hub.qgraph.com>

Ah ya caught me....for the benefit of the group it seem recent discoveries are leading scientist to think the Earth is round. A fact that I overlooked in my proposal.

I propose short path and maybe that should be the square root of 500 uV/M.

Brian AE9K

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: Babineau@eworld.com
Subject: [4318] re: RS Coax for DCTL Loop
Message-ID: <960215191533_25179481@hp1.online.apple.com>

Thanks to all that responded to my request for details on the RS twinlead specified in the CQ article. Responses were numerous, but consistent!

I hope to build one of these puppies soon and see if I can improve on the mixed successes I have had with my 40 ft 26awg random wire.

Thanks again.

Michael
VE3WMB

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
Subject: [4275] Re: Soldering
Message-ID: <960215002359_144733560@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Well, this is the rude and crude method for a temperature controlled soldering station, but I use a Radio Shack 40 watt iron (manufactured by Ungar) for about \$15 and a \$3 light dimmer in a two gang switch box with a u-ground pigtail and feeding a duplex 120 volt receptacle. Cost of the "station" is less than \$10. Plug the iron in and twiddle untill you get the consistant temperature you need. Did I mention that I'm an electrician and the parts were still that cheap from the local hardware store?

I agree with Zack that the less time spent on the solder joint the better.

I've seen more problems with cold solder joints from the cheap 25 and 30 watt irons than I've had problems with lifting traces with a good Ungar.

IMHO, Darrel, WD6BOR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 15 22:23:19 1996
From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [4276] re> soldering irons
Message-ID: <v01530503ad49644c753f@[199.120.150.87]>

I've been using more and more these small butane soldering irons. I have a simple RS (same as Iso) at home and a fancy push button ignition one at work. I have little problem with trace lift off, no static problem and no cord dragging across the table. Neat for outside work too!

72

Mike WA6ARA